

**SUGGESTED REVISION OF PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NIE 20**

Page 1

**Problem**

line 2 - change Viet Minh to Communist.

line 3 - Indochina means all three associated States

**Scope**

redesignate (b) as (c); (c) as (d); (d) as (b).

**Questions Bearing on the Problem**

Insert new "I" as follows:

I What are the prospects for resisting the spread of Communism in mainland Southeast Asian Countries?

A. How do mainland Southeast Asian Countries regard the threat of Communism?

1. Is Communism per se considered a threat to independence and sovereignty?
2. How would their concept of the Communist threat be changed by a Viet Minh victory in Indochina
  - (a) with no indications of overt Chinese participation
  - (b) with overt Chinese participation followed by immediate withdrawal of Chinese forces.
  - (c) with overt Chinese participation followed by evidence of Chinese intention to maintain forces in Indochina

B. What are the prospects for concerted action against Communism among Mainland Southeast Asian Countries?

1. Would Burma, Thailand, and Malaya agree to concerted action in resistance against Communism? If so, at what point? What-

SECRET

-2-

~~would be the prospects for and effect of a defensive agreement with India.~~

2. What are the principal obstacles, other than Communist opposition, to an agreement among the governments of Thailand, Burma, and Malaya to act in concert against the spread of Communism?
3. At what point would India attempt to bolster resistance in Mainland Southeast Asia and what effect would this have on Mainland Southeast Asian Countries?
- C. Assess capabilities for resisting the spread of Communism in Mainland Southeast Asian countries.
  1. Communist capabilities for <sup>against</sup> ~~conquering~~ Mainland Southeast Asia?
  2. Capabilities of Burma, Thailand and Malaya, singly, and in concert, ~~without external assistance~~
  3. Capabilities of Burma, Thailand and Malaya plus external aid from US and other external sources.
  4. What would be the nature and extent of outside aid required to insure successful resistance to Communism in Mainland Southeast Asia.

Redesignate I as II, in title strike immediate and long range and change Viet Minh to Communist

Page 2

- B. insert after "chances, following a Communist victory in Indochina, that, etc..."

Page 3

Redesignate II as III and in title strike immediate and long range and change Viet Minh to Communist.

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SECRET

-6-

Page 4

Redesignate III as IV, in title strike immediate and long and change  
Viet Minh to Communist.

IV B. 2 - Discuss the effect of food shortage on British capabilities ~~and~~  
*to maintain*  
mainland control.

Page 5 and 6

Strike IV and V.

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